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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/808,018	03/24/2004	Michael Violette	400.278US01	5683
27073	7590	03/14/2005		
LEFFERT JAY & POLGLAZE, P.A. P.O. BOX 581009 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55458-1009			EXAMINER DANG, PHUC T	
			ART UNIT 2818	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/808,018

Applicant(s)

VIOLETTE, MICHAEL

Examiner

PHUC T. DANG

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on election filed on February 17, 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20-39 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **Restriction/Election**

1. Applicant's election filed on February 17, 2005 is acknowledged.

In election, Applicants elected Group I (claims 1-19) and withdrawn Group II (claims 20-39).

Claims 1-39 are currently pending in this application for examination at this time.

### **Oath/Declaration**

2. The oath/declaration filed on March 24, 2004 is acceptable.

### **Specification**

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

- i) The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed (see MPEP 606.01).

A title such as -- METHOD OF FORMING SELECT LINES FOR NAND MEMORY DEVICES -- is suggested. Note that, the claims are directed to a method of forming a semiconductor device instead of to an apparatus of a semiconductor device.

- ii) Applicants are advised to cancel the non-elected claims of Group II (claims 20-39) in response to the next Office action if the application is considered to be allowed.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

3. Claims 1-19 would be allowed.

The following is a statement of reason for the indication of allowable subject matter:

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None of the prior art of records suggested or discloses a method of forming a portion of a NAND memory array comprising a step of connecting first and second conductive layers of the select line that are separated by an interlayer dielectric using a contact that extends from a third conductive layer, formed on the second conductive layer, to the first conductive layer, the contact formed in a hole that passes through the second conductive layer and the interlayer dielectric layer and that terminates at the first conductive layer in combination with the other steps of the independent method of claim 1.

None of the prior art of records suggested or discloses a method of forming a portion of a NAND memory array comprising a step of forming a third conductive layer on the second conductive layer and on sidewalls of the hole and the exposed portion of the first conductive layer to form a contact in the hole that electrically connects the first and second conductive layers in combination with the other steps of the independent method of claims 7 and 12.

None of the prior art of records suggested or discloses a method of forming a portion of a NAND memory array comprising a step of forming a metal-containing layer on the second polysilicon layer and on sidewalls of the hole and the exposed portion of the first polysilicon layer to form a contact in the hole that electrically connects the first and second polysilicon layers in combination with the other steps of the independent method of claims 18 and 19.

Prosecution on the merit is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex Parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

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### Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuc T. Dang whose telephone number is (571) 272-1776. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am-5:00 pm.
5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David C. Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.
6. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Phuc T. Dang

PD



Primary Examiner

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